IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert as the first sentence on page 1 of the specification the following:

--This application is a national-stage filing under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT/FR99/01342, filed June 8, 1999. This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 to France 98 07174, filed June 8, 1998.—

Please insert on page 1, after line 26:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1A represents a dendrogram of the family of proteins with repeated WD40 motifs.

Figs. 1B and 1C show that the CCS52Ms protein contains 7 domains with repeated WD40 motifs.

Fig. 2 schematically shows the structure of the CCS52Ms protein.

Figs. 3A and 3B show that expression of CCS52 causes the inhibition of growth of *S. pombe,* which is accompanied by endoreplication (3B), but not in control cells carrying the empty vector pREP1 (3A).

Fig. 3B shows the presence of nuclei $\geq 4C$.

Fig. 4 shows the positions of primers P55Bl, P55CL and P55Cr.

Fig. 5A shows the results of evaluation of the quantity of endogenous *ccs52Mt* transcripts.

Fig. 5B shows the results of analysis by flow cytometry for petioles of control plants containing the *gus* gene, diploids (C_{2n}) or tetraploids (C_{4n}).

Fig. 6A shows the width of the petiole as function of the percentage of polyploid cells.

Fig. 6B shows the relative number of endoreplicated (>4C) nuclei.

Fig. 6C shows the relative width of the petioles.--